

VZCZCXYZ0033  
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUCNDT #0302 0952012  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
O 042012Z APR 08  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4048  
INFO RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE 1573  
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE 6299  
RUEHMK/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE 0108  
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE 1196  
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE 0117  
RUEHCL/AMCONSUL CASABLANCA IMMEDIATE 0509

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 000302

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

PARIS FOR WILLIAM JORDAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/04/2013  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [PBTS](#) [UNSC](#) [MO](#) [WI](#)  
SUBJECT: UN WESTERN SAHARA REPORT WILL INCLUDE ENVOY'S  
VIEWS

REF: STATE 33088

Classified By: Deputy political counselor Molly Phee  
for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (C) Summary: The UN has confirmed that the  
Secretary-General's upcoming report on the Western Sahara

SIPDIS

will include a realistic assessment of the state of play by  
Personal Envoy Peter Van Walsum, including his determination  
that neither a referendum with independence as an option nor  
autonomy based exclusively on the Moroccan proposal is  
currently politically realistic. The Secretary-General,  
however, will not endorse Van Walsum's view as his own at  
this stage. End Summary.

¶2. (C) Donatella Giubilaro, the Western Sahara action  
officer in the UN's Department of Political Affairs, told  
USUN April 2 that Van Walsum had completed his written  
analysis of the status of Western Sahara negotiations and  
submitted the text to the UN for inclusion in the  
Secretary-General's next report on the Western Sahara,

SIPDIS

scheduled to be released April 14. (The other portion of the  
text, pertaining to MINURSO, is prepared by the UN's  
Department of Peacekeeping Operations and is also complete.)  
Giubilaro confirmed that the draft report must now be  
approved by the Secretary-General's office. She also  
reported that Van Walsum's analysis makes clear his bald view  
that neither a referendum with independence as an option nor  
autonomy based exclusively on the Moroccan proposal is  
currently politically realistic.

¶3. (C) Per reftel, Ambassador Wolff met with DPA U/SYG Lynn  
Pascoe April 4 to urge support for Van Walsum's text. Pascoe  
assured Amb Wolff that Van Walsum's proposed text would not  
be changed. He also reported that Van Walsum's analysis is  
critical of the Security Council for its role in perpetuating  
the stalemate. In response to Amb Wolff's push to have the  
Secretary-General endorse Van Walsum's report, Pascoe made

SIPDIS

clear that the Secretary-General would not adopt Van Walsum's  
view as his own. The text of the report is likely to urge  
the parties and concerned states to seriously consider Van  
Walsum's assessment.

14. (C) Separately, USUN met with DPA Director for Africa Sammy Kum Buo, who expressed sympathy for Van Walsum's conclusion and a desire to break the stalemate. But Buo argued that it would be imprudent for Ban to endorse Van Walsum's views now. He explained that all the parties -- Morocco, the Polisario, and Algeria -- refuse to compromise on their stated positions and therefore oppose Van Walsum's conclusion. Buo said he had already been lobbied by the parties and expected them to lobby the Secretary-General. He also said Ban would be criticized by the NAM and states like South Africa if he appeared to undermine the principle of self-determination. Buo, who works closely with the NAM through his work on Africa, said "these are my people and I tell you they will give the SG a hard time." Finally, Buo recalled that the Security Council remains deadlocked. He concluded that Ban is too new in his job to adopt such a controversial position, but did not rule out an evolution in the Secretary-General's approach in the future.

KHALILZAD